Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheets makes changes to Figs. 11-16 and replace the original sheets with Figs. 11-16.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, the drawings are amended, and claims 1, 6 and 7 are amended. Support for amended claim 1 and 6 can be found in, for example, page 18, lines 22-25 through page 19, lines 1-15. No new matter has been added.

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

I. <u>Drawing Objection</u>

The drawings were objected to for allegedly not properly designating the prior art.

Replacement drawings of FIGs. 11-16 are provided herewith, with a legend designating such as prior art. It is thus respectfully requested that the objection be withdrawn.

II. Claim Objection

Claim 7 was objected to for allegedly failing to provide proper antecedent basis.

Claim 7 is amended to overcome the objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1, 2 and 5-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Nakamura (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004-0169993). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Nakamura fails to teach or suggest a vehicle installed relay box including a wiring configured to connect a relay element installed in an installation socket and terminals, and a semiconductor module wherein the semiconductor module includes the terminals that are configured to be connected to the relay element, as recited in independent claim 1.

Nakamura merely discloses a wiring directly connected to connection terminals. In contrast, the present claims disclose that the wiring connects the relay element and the terminals, which terminals are included in a semiconductor module within the relay box.

Nowhere does Nakamura disclose a semiconductor module, or furthermore that terminals of such semiconductor module are connected to the relay element by the wiring.

The Office Action asserts that Nakamura discloses a semiconductor module in FIG. 1 at 21. However, 21 represents an electric connection box, not a semiconductor module. Further, the relay box of the present claims includes a semiconductor module that allows different relay elements to be installed. The electric connection box of Nakamura has no such semiconductor module so configured. As such, Nakamura fails to teach or suggest each and every claim feature.

Accordingly, for at least these reasons, independent claim 1, and its dependent claims, are patentable. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Nakamura in view of Metlitzky et al. (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004-0080214).

The Office Action alleges that claim 4 is unpatentable over Nakamura in view of Metlitzky. However, this rejection is considered moot in view of the above deficiencies of Nakamura that are not remedied by any aspect of Metlitzky. Thus, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

As Nakamura, alone or in combination with Metlitzky, fails to teach or suggest each and every claim feature, independent claim 1, and its dependent claims, are patentable over the applied references. Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Application No. 10/716,419

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1, 2 and 4-7 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff Registration No. 27,075

Kevin K. Jones Registration No. 56,809

JAO:KKJ/hs

Date: February 1, 2007

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